

Date: Tue, 9 Mar 93 14:28:34 PST
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #296
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Tue, 9 Mar 93 Volume 93 : Issue 296

Today's Topics:

Alinco DJ-F1T / Mic connector for packet - help
Birdwatching Hams
COLLINS URT-32/TU-9 VHF/UHF
FREE INTERNET ACCESS TO HAM NEWSGROUPS
Grid Squares
Ham Radio Outlet incident
Help building portable GPS antenna
Help with Cuban station (2 msgs)
How do I ground the antenna?
HTX-202 MODS ??????
IRCI Filters and the 735
License delays
Opinions on FT 890 vs TS 450S
TNC (KPC-3) to Alinco 160
Using PA-6 DC adapter with the FT-470

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 9 Mar 93 19:55:23 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!spool.mu.edu!hri.com!noc.near.net!
saturn.caps.maine.edu!maine.maine.edu!io30399@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Alinco DJ-F1T / Mic connector for packet - help
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

As posted above - I have a DJ-F1T trying to hook it up for
packet. But can't seem to get the mike connector right. Could

some one post how the F1-T's PTT and mike input work - meaning
is it a two or three conductor plug and which conductor is the PTT.
Any help would at least eliminate some possibilities.
Thanks -Damon Kiesow - N10JG - 207-866-5976

Date: 9 Mar 93 19:09:45 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!zaphod.mps.ohio-state.edu!
pitt.edu!hpb.cis.pitt.edu!hpb@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Birdwatching Hams
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <9303091746.AA15184@umassmed.UMMED.EDU> sbaker@umassmed.UMMED.EDU
(Stephen Baker) writes:
>Dr. John Murnane a.k.a. WB1APD published a note in Winging It,
>the newsletter of the American Birding Association looking to get in touch
>with birdwatchers who are also Hams.

If the American Birding Association created an organization of
bird-watching hams, would it be called the American Robin Relay League?
:-) :-) :-)

Harry Bloomberg
hpb@vms.cis.pitt.edu

Date: Tue, 9 Mar 1993 17:57:45 GMT
From: nsisrv!news1.gsfc.nasa.gov!NewsWatcher!user@ames.arpa
Subject: COLLINS URT-32/TU-9 VHF/UHF
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

A readers reply and response:

I guess I have missed the jest of this note but you were able to peak my
curiosity. Are these units easily modified to work on the ham bands and will
they run at reduced power settings? I am interested in a unit like that for

satellite work, 25 watts just doesn't cut it on AO-13 w/ 75 deg. of off-
point.

They tune from 146 to over 450 Mc. They come with driver units that you
throw away. Crystal up to final freq! It has a driver tube that can run 80
Watts itself.

ITS NOT THE REDUCED POWER THAT IS THE PROBLEM< BUT IN MAKING IT TALK AT
HIGH POWER! IT WAS RATED AT 50 WATTS OUT> VERY CONSERVATIVE! THEY ARE
EXTRORDINARY EASY TO CONVERT TO ABOUT 200-300 WATTS>

Please let me know where a person might be able to locate these units..

TKS Eric. I DO NOT KNOW< BUT YOU DO KNOW HOW TO LOCATE ONE. JUST AS YOU LOCATED THIS INFO. There was 2 sold 2 weeks ago at Vienna, Va hamfest. I dont have enough to sell another one. I am down to my last 4! I am not going to get into how to convert one untill someone has one or has located one. The moder replacement was the surplus AM 6154 and 6155 which were half the weight and rack height, but not very reliabile at high power. I am more than happy to discuss problems and solutions. DICK W1DGA

Date: 9 Mar 1993 19:05:32 GMT
From: noc.near.net!news.bbn.com!bbn.com!levin@uunet.uu.net
Subject: FREE INTERNET ACCESS TO HAM NEWSGROUPS
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

lairdpg@lub001.lamar.edu writes:

Feeling pedantic as usual, I like to make sure that people understand the difference. Perhaps Mr. or Ms. lairdpg could clear this up.

|Due to several folks asking about free internet access, I feel it is in order
|make a mention:

|The HAM Connection (409)833-1795 upto 14.4k Baud connection has the following
|Internet newsgroups available:

|REC.RADIO.AMATEUR.MISC

..
|SCI.SPACE.SHUTTLE

|There are plenty of other newsgroups as well. Free access to all Hams and those
|interested in the amateur radio hobby.

You have mentioned Usenet newsgroups. (These are NOT Internet newsgroups.) If that is what you mean you should say so. Internet access means a connection with the ability, among other things, to use telnet and ftp to access other Internet sites. If one can do this from the HAM Connection, you might indicate that. If in fact you only mean access to the newsgroups and nothing more, you should say that, as many sites carry Usenet without having Internet access. The Internet in this connection is merely a transport mechanism (albeit the largest and fastest) used to carry Usenet articles.

You should also specify whether your users can post to Usenet, or only read it.

I don't generally make this distinction in other newsgroups, but hams

are supposed to have some technical proficiency, or at least enough to be able to deal with the difference between Internet and Usenet. :-)

/JBL

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Nets: levin@bbn.com |
pots: (617)873-3463 |
N1MNF/AA |

"I gotta go."
-- I. Shoales

Date: 9 Mar 93 16:11:12 EST
From: titan.ksc.nasa.gov!k4dii.ksc.nasa.gov!user@ames.arpa
Subject: Grid Squares
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <BAT.93Mar5142634@gdstech.GRUMMAN.COM>, bat@gdstech.GRUMMAN.COM
(Pat Masterson) wrote:
> There is a neat little program called GRID.COM for the PC that does
> a 2 way conversion. It's available from the ARRL BBS:
> 203-666-0578.

Pat-

Is there a chance that someone could upload GRID.COM to an ftp site? I used the archie system, and got zero responses for grid.com.

73, Fred, K4DII

fred-mckenzie@ksc.nasa.gov

Date: 8 Mar 93 20:53:19 GMT
From: usc!howland.reston.ans.net!spool.mu.edu!olivea!gossip.pyramid.com!pyramid!infmtx!seashore!randall@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Ham Radio Outlet incident
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

A very interesting thing happened to me at Ham Radio Outlet in Sunnyvale last week. I was admiring the new Kenwood TS-50 mobile rig when a gentleman who appeared to be the manager approached me. "Are you Randall Rhea?" he asked. I didn't know I was a celebrity. "Yes I am" was my reply. "Well, look, the people who work for me here on the weekends are volunteers." He appeared to be a bit perturbed. He then walked away. I then felt quite wierd, put back the items I was going to purchase, and walked out of the store.

I certainly thought this was a strange exchange, but then I realized what he was talking about. A few weeks ago, I posted an article in reply to someone who was unhappy with the service at HRO. I responded that I had received both good and bad service there, and that I thought that the salespeople there made very little money; one salesperson actually said that he didn't consider his HRO job to be a "real job." The only thing critical about my article was my indication of continued displeasure over HRO's failure to put prices on their parts and accessories. I don't like having to wait in line at the counter just to find out about prices for items that are on the shelf, and neither does any other customer. I also mentioned that their main competitor in the area (Quement Electronics) was better for parts (they post prices and have a better stock), but that their prices were higher on rigs.

So then I thought, was I being unfair to HRO in my article? I certainly appreciate the fact that HRO is there. I go there all the time, and I have spent about \$3000 there over the past couple of years, so I suppose and can be catagorized as a frequent customer. Maybe I could get a better price mail-order, but I want to patronize the local business. I also worked for Radio Shack for several years, so I know first-hand the trials and tribulations of retailers. Should I appreciate the fact that "volunteers" work behind the counter on Saturday?

Well, I went back and re-read my article, and I stand behind everything I said. HRO is a for-profit institution, not a charity. I am a customer, and I think I deserve good service. I generally have received good service there, but if some people have not, "we're just volunteers" is not an excuse. I also believe that the manager's comment to me was uncalled for; he was not rude, but it did make me feel very strange- certainly not like a welcome customer. I feel bad if he took anything I said personally, but everything I said was true.

Another lesson: you never know who will be reading your Usenet articles!

73 DE KK6MY

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Randall Rhea	Informix Software, Inc.
Project Manager, MIS Sales/Marketing Systems	uunet!pyramid!infmx!randall

Date: Tue, 9 Mar 1993 20:00:36 GMT
From: usc!cs.utexas.edu!hermes.chpc.utexas.edu!news.utdallas.edu!corpgate!
crchh327!bnr.ca!grier@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Help building portable GPS antenna
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

How about the formula for a dipole?

468
--- = length in feet of dipole
f

468
---- = 0.3' or 4"
1575

A four inch dipole, mounted vertically, use the case as one side of the dipole, does not sound like a very big antenna.

Though I'll admit to total ignorance of micro-wave.

Brian, WS1S (ST/TT User/Developer)
Bell Northern Research
Research Triangle Park, NC

Date: 9 Mar 1993 10:05:35 -0500
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!darwin.sura.net!opusc!opusc!not-for-
mail@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Help with Cuban Station
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I heard CL4BM calling CQ last night about 0500 utc and gave him a call. He came back with a signal report and a name (Crecencio). Then he sent "BOX NR 150"

He had a very weak signal and a chirpy tone that was hard to copy, but I got "ISLE OF PINE, CUBA, and NR 25100 (I think). I had heard him work another station just previously, and the copy was nearly identical, although I was unable to make sense of it. I started to ask for clarification, but he was calling CQ again immediately. All he got (or wanted) from me was a callsign. No signal report, no QTH, nothing.

Any ideas? NR...Novice Roundup? (It was on the Novice portion of 40M)

Tnx es 73
David, KQ4KT (Great CW call)

Date: 9 Mar 1993 13:58:26 -0500
From: haven.umd.edu!darwin.sura.net!opusc!opusc!not-for-mail@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Help with Cuban station
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I heard CL4BM calling CQ last night about 0500 UTC and gave him a call. He came right back with a signal report and a name (Crecencio). Then he sent "QTH BOX NR 150" several times.

He had a very weak signal and a chirpy tone that was hard to copy thru the QRM on 40 meters, but I got "Pine Isle Cuba" and NR 25100 (I think). I had listened to him work another station just before his call, and the copy was nearly identical, although I was unable to make sense of it. I started to ask for clarification, but he was calling CQ again. All he got from me was my callsign. No signal report, no QTH, nothing.

Any ideas? NR...Novice Roundup? (It was on the Novice portion of 40M)

Tnx es 73
David, KQ4KT (great CW call)

Date: Tue, 9 Mar 1993 19:31:08 GMT
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!
bogus.sura.net!udel!gvls1!gvlf9-q!rossi@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: How do I ground the antenna?
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

What is the best way to ground a VHF antenna that will be sitting on top of a 40 foot wooden mast?

The most obvious way would probably be to simply run a single conductor ground wire (#12 or #10 or whatever) down alongside of the pole to a ground rod at the base...

... BUT ...

... wouldn't simply connecting the shield of the coax to the same ground rod at the base accomplish about the same thing?

I would think that the braid of a good grade RG8 cable is probably at least as good as #10 copper.

replacements for Icom battery packs are available from several second-source companies. Which would be good for the HTX-202, as far as power output and battery charge life is concerned? How about rapid-charge batteries and chargers?

The HTX-202 seems to have a good reputation, as far as reliability, features and cost are concerned. To date, I don't think it has been sold at a reduced price, which tells me it's selling well enough to warrant keeping it in the line. I wouldn't be surprised if it became the new "classic" handheld, taking over from the IC-2AT. If it's going to be around for a while, why not start a "FAQ" that discusses the above items, or any other items of concern?

73, Fred, K4DII

fred-mckenzie@ksc.nasa.gov

Date: 9 Mar 93 09:56:00 GMT
From: pacbell.com!amdahl!netcomsv!netcomsv!pcs!bill.nadzam@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: IRCI Filters and the 735
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

HL>What do you mean by "IRC filters"? I have an IC-735 and I'm wondering how
HL>I can improve it, in whatever way....

HL>

HL>I have balked at getting a 500 Hz CW filter, as the passband tuning seems to
HL>do a good enough job. The review years ago in QST indicated that the results
HL>are indeed similar. Do you agree?

Howard; The IRC filters are after market crystal filters sold by a company in Florida called "IRCI", which if my memory serves me correctly stands for International Radio and Computers Inc.... Anyway years ago there was a group that imported these same filters under the Fox/Tango name. These were mostly a group that supported the Yaesu "FT" stuff, like the FT-101E.. Then later Fox/Tango started supporting just about all brands out of Japan, and even Heathkit... I am not sure why but somewhere after 1984 to 1988 Fox/Tango went away and the group at IRC started selling the same imported filters. If you really want to know more look them up in CQ, or 73 magazine. I think a catalog sells for \$1.00 and is very complete on their filter line. Last time I bought them it was \$175 for both the 455 and 8.2??Mhz filters for the IC-735. The filters are larger than the ceramic filters that are in the IC-735 now, so unless you don't mind a bit of fooling around to squeeze them in I would let them just go by. I have installed these in two 735's a TS-940S/AT and a TS-830S. Only in the case of the TS-830S was the fit a one for one. Even the TS-940S had a ceramic filter in the second IF. I am about to install them in a TS-440S unless I sell it at next Saturdays

flee market. By the way the TS-440S as it comes from the factory has NO filter in the first IF except a very crude time constant. Kenwood let me down, but at least they left a place for one that IRC has a true fit replacement for. PS the SSB filter sets are available in the 2.1KHz and 1.8KHz versions. I use the 2.1KHz but wish I had bought the 1.8KHz for the 735 as I use it mobile and could use the tighter bandpass in the noise of car travel.

. EZ 1.37 . 73 de Bill K8WN ..._._

Date: 9 Mar 93 18:51:59 GMT
From: olivea!pagesat!spssig.spss.com!feenix.metronet.com!marcbg@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: License delays
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Mar09.164327.22563@mixcom.com> kevin.jessup
<kevin.jessup@mixcom.mixcom.com> writes:
>I've heard that the FCC has one (and ONLY one) person working only 4 hours
>per week (or is it per month??) on the processing of new amateur radio
>licenses. Is this true?

No. My information has it that there are four people in the Gettysburg office, and they all work part time on amateur radio licenses.

>I've also heard that new HAMS are waiting up to 12 weeks for a license.
>Yet, a week or two ago, someone posted an article saying it took only
>7 weeks. Are they really catching up on the back-log, or was that
>7-weeker a fluke?

You know, it's hard to say. I just talked to someone who received his license for an upgrade he took in November. A lot of this has to do with the VECs - how long does the local VE group hold the paperwork, how long does the national group (YI, ARRL, etc) hold the paperwork, etc., before sending to the FCC. Regardless how you cut it, the VEC cycle adds at least a week onto the process.

As for the 7 vs 12 week deal, who knows. Maybe someone dropped a pile of paper on the floor and got their FIFO system messed up.

As a final note, when I got my license in 1986, the waiting time was about 10 weeks - longer for some folks, shorter for others. So, things really haven't changed much in the past few years. There was a short period where the FCC had a 4-6 week turnaround a few years back, but that was a fluke, I'm sure.

--

for a Yaesu HT in the KPC-3 manual. I'd like to hook up my Alinco, but the mike plug on my Alinco speaker-mike is a 3-conductor sub-mini while the Yaesu and the HTX-202 use a two conductor plug. The KCP-3 book gives no hints about Alincos or about any three-wire mike cables.

Does anyone have any information on this?

Thanks

73 / JBL N1MNF/AA

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Nets: levin@bbn.com | "GO TO JAIL. Go directly to jail. Do not pass
POTS: (617)873-3463 | Go. Do not collect \$200."
N1MNF | -- Parker Brothers

Date: Tue, 9 Mar 1993 19:08:45 GMT
From: usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!fc.hp.com!
paulc@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Using PA-6 DC adapter with the FT-470
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Don Hay (donh@hpcuhe.cup.hp.com) wrote:
: While on the subject of the FT-470, why does Yaesu say not to use
: Nicads in the FBA-17 battery case...

I believe it's simply a safety issue: there's no current limiting feature with that battery case, so a short could cause it to melt, burn up, explode :-), etc. Nicads have a relatively low internal resistance. CYA...

-Paul Christofanelli, KG0CZ

Date: 9 Mar 1993 17:54:35 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!darwin.sura.net!mojo.eng.umd.edu!
chuck@ames.arpa
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Mar6.152436.23343@ke4zv.uucp>,
<1993Mar8.225111.18129@nynexst.com>, <1993Mar9.132841.10954@ke4zv.uucp>0
Subject : Re: Lightning and inside wiring

In article <1993Mar9.132841.10954@ke4zv.uucp> gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman) writes:

>In article <1993Mar8.225111.18129@nynexst.com> atul@nynexst.com writes:

...

>>I mounted a receive only long wire antenna from my second floor
>>window to a nearby tree. I was planning to sink an 8 ft ground
>>rod right below the window. I tried pushing the rod into the
>>ground in the vicinity of the window. Unfortunately, I cannot
>>make the rod go more than 2 ft deep. I guess there must be rocks

...

>I don't know how you are trying to sink the ground rod. Here's
>a trick many electricians use. Dig a hole about the size of a
>quart jar, fill it with water, shove the ground rod into the
>center of the bottom of the hole. Now with a butter churning
>motion, pump the rod into the ground. Every foot or so you

The easiest way that I have found to sink 8 foot grounding rods is
using a 1/2" hammer drill. What I do is chuck the rod in my drill, and
start it turning, and then just use my body weight to press it into the ground.
I haven't been foiled yet. The hammer action of the drill tends to break
the kind of sedimentary rocks we have around here. You can get even better
results if you grind the point of the rod into a "screw driver blade" shape.

73,

Chuck Harris - WA3UQV
chuck@eng.umd.edu

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #296
